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# SOCCER WORLD

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CHOCOLATES

Vol. 17, No. 2.

54 Renwick Street, Marrickville. — Tel.: 55-6877

January 25, 1974



Sutherland's Col Bennett (left) and Peter Brankin, of Pan Hellenic, present a picture of grim determination in this incident from last Sunday's Ampol Cup opener at Wentworth Park.

## "RICHARDS MUST PLAY" — RASIC

— By LOU GAUTIER —

Rale Rasic will play Ray Richards against Ferencvaros regardless of the star midfielder's dispute with Marconi.

Rasic said this week that Richards was too important a key player to leave out.

The national team's mid-field and defensive pattern revolves too much around Richards for any experimenting to take place before the World Cup," he said.

"There is nothing to prevent him from inclusion in representative football. "As long as he isn't suspended by the club and is

still a registered Marconi player, he is entitled to play for Australia."

Rasic confirmed there will be no changes when the squad for the Ferencvaros matches — in Adelaide on February 6 and in Sydney on February 10 — is announced after this weekend's Ampol Cup round.

John Warren, Ray Baartz, John McDonald, Jim Rooney, Adrian Alston, Attila Abonyi, Bill Vojtek, Ernie Campbell, Branko Buljevic and Max Tolson.

Rasic warned not to expect any "miracles" against Ferencvaros.

"It is far too early in the season for our players to reach anything like their best form. We could be struggling like against the Bulgarians in February 1973", he said.

The national squad will be enlarged to 40 players after the Ferencvaros matches, and will train every Wednesday in Sydney.

### Sparring-partners

At this stage there are no firm plans to provide the Socceroos with more sparring-partners before they leave for Europe on May 20.

New Zealand, Indonesia, Malaysia and Aberdeen have all been mentioned as possible trial horses, but everything's pretty much in the air.

Rasic agrees that it is absolutely imperative the national team play at least four matches at home after the Ferencvaros visit.

He returned from Europe with an offer from leading tour promoter Ilias Zaccour to fly the State side from Sao Paulo to Australia in March or April.

A Sao Paulo select would include some of Brazil's best — though not their current internationals, who start their pre-World Cup camp early in March — as it would draw players from clubs like Santos, FC Sao Paulo, Corinthians and Palmeiras.

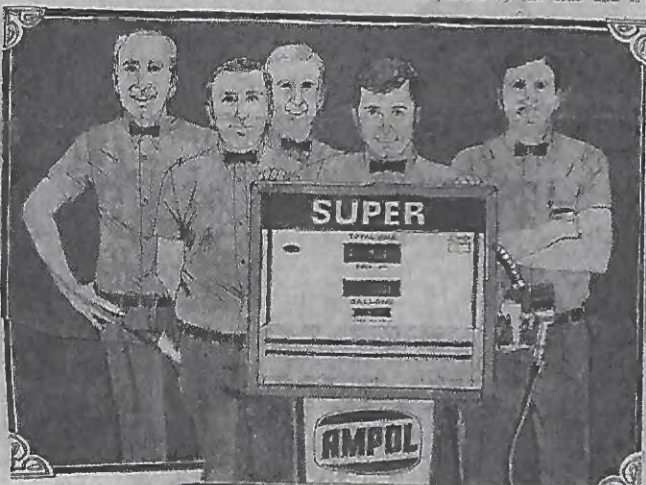
If the ASE is experiencing difficulty finding a touring team, it should jump at the chance of bringing out the Brazilians, sure-fire drawcards in Australia.

Australia just cannot afford to have its national team idle in the months leading up to the World Cup finals.

Midweek matches, say on the Wednesdays, which are taken up anyhow by the Socceroos' training sessions, would cause no disruption to the Sydney premiership.

Every one of the other finalists, including "minnows" Haidi and Zaire, have several warm-up matches already arranged.

Must Australia again be the unhappy exception which confirms the rule?



### Same squad

The 18 players who travelled to Seoul and Hong Kong for the matches against South Korea last November will be selected.

The four players who also went into camp last October, but were left out of the touring party, will stand by as substitutes.

Rasic has no other choice but to place his faith at this early stage of the season in the players who took part in last year's victorious World Cup campaign.

The Australian team against the Hungarians will come from the following players:

Alan Maher, Jim Fraser, Jim Milisavljevic, Doug Utesenovic, Peter Wilson, John Watkins, Col Curran, Harry Williams, Manfred Schaefer, George Harris, Ray Richards, Jim Mackay.

## Several surprises for

the h



The company that  
supports soccer.

between, made the most of the new-look APIA's lack of understanding to score a well deserved victory.

Croatia, however, will have to beat, or at least draw with, Hakoah this weekend to emerge as a credible semifinal contender. Yugosl-Prague's and Wests' draws at Woonona with Safeway and Hakoah respectively must also rate as surprises as the holders of the cup and the home team were expected to start the season with a win.

St. George-Budapest and Marconi can be pleased with their form last Friday. Their match produced the best football of a first

played at four venues, because Safeway played Yugosl-Prague at Woonona and Marconi met Sutherland at Bessley Park with no supporting game.

If one had to frame a betting "market" based on form shown in the first round, the odds for the Ampol Cup could read something like this:

St. George 3-1; Hakoah 2-1; Safeway 6-1; Marconi 8-1; Pan Hellenic, Yugosl-Prague 10-1; APIA 12-1; Western Suburbs, Croatia 15-1; Auburn 33-1; Canterbury 250-1; Sutherland 500-1.

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— LOU GAUTIER



# AMPOL CUP RESULTS, DETAILS

## RESULTS & SCORERS

### Hakoah

1 (0)  
Baartz 60 min.

### WESTS

1 (0)  
Lindsay 65 min.

### Safeway

1 (1)  
Rigby 14 min.

### Yugal-Prague

1 (1)  
Wilson (own goal) 31 min.

### St. George

1 (0)  
Herron 45 min.

### Marconi

1 (0)  
Robertson 37 min.

### Auburn

2 (0)  
Keddie 40 min., Leak 47 min.

### Canterbury

1 (0)  
Pocock 60 min.

## HOW THEY LINED UP

Madeschi 4, Fekete 3, Mullen 3, Watkins 4, Marnoch 4, Mackay 4, Watson 3, Baartz 3, Fletcher 3, Morrow 3, O'Connor 3.

TOTAL: 37.

Coach: D. MacLaren.

Match rating: \* \* \*

Eaton 3, Curran 4, Ferguson 4, Radcliffe 3, Gray 3, Smythe 4 (G. Smith 3), Byles 3, Turner 4, Lindsay 3, Spiekerman 3, Turnbull 3.

TOTAL: 37.

Coach: L. Scheinflug.

Hestford 3, Roberts 3, Wilson 4, Tuckerman 4, Allison 3 (Bingham 4), Dunlop 4, Fryer 3, McGroty 3, Tolson 3, Alston 4, Rigby 4.

TOTAL: 38.

Coach: P. Wilson.

Match rating: \* \* \* \*

Tuinman 5, Boskovski 4, McDonald 4, Velkovski 4, Nacinovic 4, Rootsey 3, J. Alagich 3, Mihajlovic 3, Takac 4, Serdarevic 4, Skerovski 3 (M. Alagich 59 min.).

TOTAL: 38.

Coach: S. Dacarski.

Fraser 4, G. Harris 3, Williams 4, Schaefer 4, Cotton 3, Stoddart 3, Herron 5, Abonyi 3, Warren 4, Hamilton 3, McDonald 4.

TOTAL: 40.

Coach: M. Johnson.

Match rating: \* \* \* \*

Murray 4, Degney 4, Robertson 4, Mihajlovic 4, Moschen 4, Jones 3, Samuel 3, Campbell 4, Brajkovic 4, Griffiths 3, Byrne 3.

TOTAL: 40.

Coach: L. Baumgartner.

Hoszowski 4, Lawson 3, Hughes 3, Gibson 3 (replaced Malone 15 min.), Hucker 4, Leak 4, Quesada 4, Stewart 4, Dellar 2, Keddie 4, Parker 2.

TOTAL: 37.

Coach: J. Marston.

Match rating: \* \* \*

Hawthorne 3, G. Brown 4, Hardy 3, Henderson 3, Xipolitas 3, Mullen 3, Balafas 4 (Angelopoulos 3), Armytage 4, Pocock 3, R. Brown 3, Welton 2.

TOTAL: 35.

Coach: L. Hegyes.

## SUMMING UP THE MATCHES

A drab, disappointing match with Western Suburbs, if anything, the better team. A draw, however, was a fair result as there was practically nothing separating the two sides. There was little goalmouth action to thrill spectators, because play was mainly centred in midfield, which turned out to be both teams' strongest department. Hakoah still have a long way to go before they recapture the fluency usually associated with their play. Wests played with greater cohesion, but it is obvious they won't fire on all cylinders until they acquire strikers with greater finishing powers. Possibly the most pleasing aspect of the match was the impeccable refereeing of Frank Shiba, who was in charge of his 350th match—a milestone in any referee's career.

Crowd: 3,880 (double-header). Referee: F. Shiba.

— LINCOLN WALTERS

An own goal four minutes before halftime enabled Yugal-Prague to draw level and share the points. A long through-ball by Nacinovic meant for Joe Alagich miscued off Peter Wilson's boot and flew high over the advancing goalkeeper, Hestford, in the back of the net. Earlier, Rigby had given United the lead when he put a corner straight past Jan Tuinman, who otherwise was in rare form and the best player on the field. Safeway's forward line faltered somewhat against a far from unbreachable Yugal defence. Yugal-Prague fought very tenaciously and played with tremendous spirit. The match had the crowd roaring most of the time as there was plenty of action throughout.

Crowd: 3,880 (double-header). Referee: A. Boskovic.

— LINCOLN WALTERS

St. George and Marconi, both surprisingly well conditioned so early in the season, turned on a thriller. The combination of Jim Herron and Johnny Warren in the striking position played havoc at times with the Marconi defence, which was caught on several occasions going the wrong way. Saints moved the ball with plenty of speed and accuracy, but split-second clearances by the determined Marconi defenders saved "certain" goals. After a scoreless first half, Stuart Robertson, moving behind the forwards, put Marconi on top with a tremendous shot from 12 metres out, but in an equally bold effort Jim Herron slid past three defenders before slamming the ball past Bill Murray. Herron and Warren were best for St. George, while Campbell and Moschen were the pick of Marconi.

Crowd: 3,908 (double-header). Referee: T. Davies.

— CHARLES SPITERI

Auburn dominated this game and deserved to beat newcomers Canterbury by the odd goal in three. Despite shedding most of their "stars" for a lot of cash during the off-season, Auburn hardly looked the worst for it and coach Joe Marston would have been more than pleased with the initial performance of his new charges. Dave Keddie and Gary Quesada—the latter coming in after a two-year absence—lacked in condition, but were still a menace in attack. Keddie scored the first goal minutes into the second half from a high lob by Hughes which caught the Berries' rearguard napping and Quesada laid the second for Stephen Leak in great style. After four years in the doldrums, Canterbury require several additions, particularly in midfield. Their only sparks were full-back Greg Brown and new signing Larry Armytage, whose efforts lifted them above the average at times.

Crowd: 3,008 (double-header). Referee: H. Witschke.

— CHARLES SPITERI

## WORLD CUP BONANZA?

Australia's share of the World Cup profits will be much less than everybody expected.

ASF secretary Brian Le Fevre said this week that Australia "would be lucky to receive \$140,000 from the organisers if we did not survive the first round matches".

"Once we have repaid all debts incurred in preparing the team for the finals, we'll be doing well to show a clear profit of \$75,000 on the entire World Cup project".

## Harry's chance?

Harry Williams could come into the Australian team against Ferencvaros if St. George-Budapest team-mate Doug Ujtesenovic is still injured.

Williams, however, would play in his usual position at left back, with Col Curran switching to the right.

Australian coach Rale Rasic, who watched a couple of Bundesliga matches in Germany this month, believes that the clutching Williams, now playing the best football of his career, is the type of player Australia will need in the World Cup.

Though Rasic is understandably reluctant to speculate on what the team against Ferencvaros in Adelaide on February 6 will be until he watches more Ampol Cup games and sees how the players shape up at training, don't be surprised if it reads something like:

Fraser — Curran, Wilson, Schaefer, Williams — Richards, Mackay, Rooney, Baartz — Alston (or Campbell), Buljevic. Rasic is more than ever convinced that Australia will have to play in a 4-4-2 formation in Germany, using only two strongly-built, hot-playing strikers, if we are to perform reasonably well. — L.G.

## Persija win final match

Persija came to learn their leaders General Soekarno and Dr. Hutomo repeated frequently at functions throughout their NSW tour. Safeway certainly drummed in a 4-0 lesson in the first match, then, after three draws against good opposition, the rapid tamed teacher and opened Northern NSW 4-2.

For tactics and sheer skill the WallSEND encounter provided as exhilarating an encounter as one could hope to see.

Defence was always in Sept, passes were pinpoint, and some glorious through balls along the carpet gave the strikers the ball just where they can deal with it.

All indications are that the game is a work of a sincere and lasting friendship with Indonesia. — K.G.

Western Subu was lost a little money on the day, but ended January year in the profits are interesting.

● Persija 3 (Iswadi, Asmara, Sumitra) v. Western Suburbs 3 (Turner, Smyth, Rachman Halim own goal) at Merks Field.

● Persija 2 (Iswadi, Rachianto) v. ACT 2 (Valeri 2) at Queenbeyan.

● Persija 4 (Asmara 2, Rachianto, Sumitra) d. Northern NSW 2 (Cummings, Tracey) at WallSEND. — K.G.

### P. Hellenic

5 (2)  
Manuel 5 min., Harding 20 min., Brankin 55 min., Muniz 56 min., Ille 69 min.

### Sutherland

2 (2)  
Trail 3 and 10 (penalty) mins.

Meir 3, Izatt 3, Rudic 3, Bell 3, Fieldhouse 3 (Ille 4), Stowell 3, Barboutis 3, Harding 4, Brankin 4, Manuel 5, Muniz 4.

TOTAL: 38.

Coach: Z. Rasic.

Match rating: \* \* \*

Maher 3, R. Griffiths 3, Bennett 3, P. Smith 3, Wykes 3, Bourke 3, Trail 4, Thompson 3, De Witt 3, Cooper 3 (Branson 3), L. Smith 3 (Shirlaw 60 min.).

TOTAL: 34.

Coach: J. Livingstone.

Pan Hellenic ran riot in the second half when Sutherland's condition wilted in the heat. Sutherland twice took the lead in the first period through industrious Derek Trail, but a Hellenic win was always "on". Sutherland fielded a very young team, which included several second and third graders from 1973, who fought gallantly, but were no match for better conditioned and far more experienced opponents. Star of the match was undoubtedly Gary Manuel, who not only scored one goal, but set up two more with the style that made him such an exciting player in his Prague days. Roko Ille is another player who contributed to Pan Hellenic's second half revival, which coincided with the former Yugal forward's substitution of Fieldhouse. It's been a long time since Hellenic have scored five goals, but they will have to confirm against stronger opposition.

Crowd: 5,422 (double-header). Referee: G. Warne.

— LOU GAUTIER



# AMPOL CUP 1974

## More upsets forecast this week

By LOU GAUTIER

More shocks could be in store in this week's second round of the Ampol Cup.

Early season form is traditionally capricious, as last week's results proved, and there is no reason to believe this weekend will be any different.

Several of the matches could go either way and by late Sunday afternoon we could have a clearer picture of which clubs remain in contention for the semi-finals.

The outlooks as I see them:

### APIA v. Sutherland

APIA will be all out to make amends for last week's fiasco when they come up against Sutherland at 7.45 p.m. on Friday at Woonona.

APIA's defeat against Croatia can be put down to their array of new talent which has been thrown together at such short notice. Even the best players in the world couldn't possibly jell into an effective unit so early.

This APIA team, make no mistake about it, abounds in class, which is bound to

surface sooner than later, but it's all a matter of time and now is much too early to expect any miracles from this 1974 vintage APIA.

Sutherland are also fielding several new faces, but for different reasons.

Coach Jimmy Livingstone has a mammoth task ahead of him with the young players at his disposal.

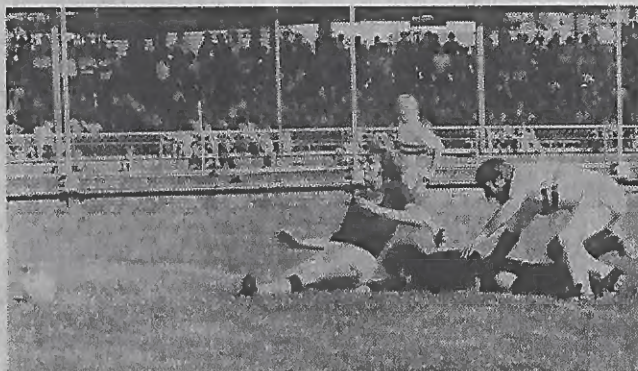
Though it's still early days, it's safe to assume Sutherland will again have to battle for their First Division lives this season.

### Safeway v. Canterbury

The Berries were gallant in defeat in their First Division comeback and had the crowd roaring for them in the second half against Auburn.

At Woonona they can't expect much support, however, because the local crowd will be behind the provincials all the way.

Safeway cannot squander more points if they want to clinch one of their rare semifinal Cup appearances.



Bill Rogers scores APIA's first goal last Sunday — but Croatia went on to win 2-1, after trailing 0-1 at halftime, in the upset of the first round of the Ampol Cup.

It was good to see a fit, determined Larry Armytage moving well in the Canterbury colors. One of Sydney's top prospects not so long ago, Armytage will make his presence felt this season if he continues in that vein.

### West v. Pan Hellenic

Rale Rasic and his World Cup assistant Les Scheinflug have started their new club careers with a bang.

Scheinflug's Wests could actually have beaten Hakoah with an ounce of luck, while Pan Hellenic ran riot — against modest opposition it is true — to bag five goals — a previously unheard feat for them.

West, already a more than useful side, will be an excellent yardstick for Pan Hellenic, who have often in the past flattered only to deceive.

Hellenic must now prove their consistency. We hope their fans learn to be patient. It could take some time before the effects of Rasic's coaching are clearly visible.

A defeat against Wests — a distinct possibility — would not be a tragedy, just one of many stumbling blocks on the long, hard road towards the glamour status which has always eluded them.

### Marconi v. Yugal-Prague

Both teams mildly surprised last week by snatching a point from more fancied opponents.

The result in the late match at Marconi Oval on Friday could already have a bearing on the final positions in Group "B" because a defeat could mean curtains for the semifinals for the loser.

Both teams stood up well against superior attacks in the opening round, and there's not much wrong with either side's defences on that showing.

Marconi and Yugal-Prague, however, look likely to have forward problems again this year unless they can secure a couple of strong strikers.

Yugal, who always seem to rise to the occasion at Bossley Park, will give a good account of themselves, but Marconi get my nod for the two points.

### Hakoah v. Croatia

Croatia, too, must show on Sunday that their win against APIA was not a flash in the pan.

They have an excellent record against Hakoah to sustain them and another win is not beyond Mike Kiss' team.

Hakoah will be a tougher nut to crack than APIA. The Cup holders may be traditionally slow starters every season, but they have been playing as a team much longer than the present APIA side.

Hakoah will again be relying on their defence to see them through. Attack is not Croatia's forte, so you can look forward to a tight, low-scoring match.

Ray Baartz, with one tough match under his belt, could turn out trumps, but watch out also for another non-stop display from Geoff Whalley, Croatia's player of the moment, who is carrying on his good midfield work of 1973.

### St. George v. Auburn

Hats off to Joe Marston for getting his new charges off to a winning start in the Cup.

Though Sunday's match against Saints will be immeasurably harder, the win over Canterbury will have worked wonders for Auburn's morale.

Full marks to St. George also for showing splendid form so early.

The football they served up in the last 20 minutes



HARRY WILLIAMS

was in their best tradition and stamps them as one of the Ampol favorites.

Saints, however, will be in trouble if Jim Herron's ankle injury hasn't cleared on Sunday because the fiery Irishman looks their best bet for goals.

St. George's abundance of class in defence and in midfield should give them a decided edge, but Auburn won't be a push-over.

## AMPOL TABLES

| GROUP "A"    |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|              | W | D | L | F | A | P |
| Pan Hellenic | 1 | — | — | 5 | 2 | 2 |
| Croatia      | 1 | — | — | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Hakoah       | — | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Wests        | — | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| APIA         | — | 1 | — | 1 | 2 | — |
| Sutherland   | — | 1 | — | 2 | 5 | — |

| GROUP "B"    |   |   |   |   |   |   |
|--------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
|              | W | D | L | F | A | P |
| Auburn       | 1 | — | — | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Marconi      | — | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Safeway      | — | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| St. George   | — | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Yugal-Prague | — | 1 | — | 1 | 1 | 1 |
| Canterbury   | — | 1 | — | 1 | 2 | — |

## REFEREES

Wests v. Pan Hellenic — P. Rampley, Marconi v. Yugal-Prague — F. Sblsa, APIA v. Sutherland — H. Witshcke, Safeway v. Canterbury — T. Davies, Hakoah v. Croatia — G. Waime, St. George v. Auburn — A. Boskovic.

## TEAMS

### WESTS

EATON  
CURRAN  
FERGUSON  
RADCLIFFE  
GRAY  
SMYTHE  
BYLES  
TURNER  
LINDSAY  
T. SMITH  
TURNBULL

### PAN HELLENIC

MEIR  
IZATT  
RUDIC  
BELL  
LILL  
STOWELL  
BARBOUITIS  
HARDING  
BRANKIN  
MANUEL  
MUNIZ

### MARCONI

MURRAY  
MOSCHEN  
ROBERTSON  
MIHAJLEVIC  
JONES  
DEGNEY  
BRAKOVIC  
CAMPBELL  
SAMUEL  
A. GRIFFITHS  
BYRNE

### YUGAL-PRAGUE

TUINMAN  
BOSKOVSKI  
S. McDONALD  
VELKOVSKI  
NACINOVIC  
ROOTSEY  
J. ALAGICH  
MIHAJLOVIC  
TAKAC  
SERDAREVIC  
M. ALAGICH

### APIA

ROBERTS  
KEITH  
JENKINS  
MACINN  
MCGHEE  
RUSSELL  
BLUES  
WALLACE  
ROGERS  
ROONEY  
BUTLER

### SUTHERLAND

MAHER  
R. GRIFFITHS  
BENNETT  
P. SMITH  
WYKES  
BOURKE  
TRAIL  
THOMPSON  
BRANSON  
COOPER  
SHIRLAW

### SAFWAY

HEFFORD  
ROBERTS  
WILSON  
TUCKERMAN  
BINGHAM  
DUNLOP  
FRYER  
MCGROTTY  
TOLSON  
ALSTON  
RIGBY

### CANTERBURY

HAWTHORNE  
C. BROWN  
HARDY  
HENDERSON  
XIPOLITAS  
MULLEN  
BALAFAS  
ARMYTAGUE  
POCOCK  
R. BROWN  
WELTON

### HAKOAH

MADESCHIK  
FEKETE  
MULLEN  
WATKISS  
HARNICHI  
MACKAY  
WATSON  
BAARTZ  
FLETCHER  
MORROW  
O'CONNOR

### CROATIA

CORRY  
WIGNALL  
M. HARRIS  
BRADY  
YAAGER  
WHALLEY  
DOYLE  
NIXON  
SULLIVAN  
D. SMITH  
VOITEK

### ST. GEORGE

FRASER  
G. HARRIS  
COTON  
SCHAEFER  
WILLIAMS  
STODART  
HERON  
ABONYI  
WARREN  
HAMMOND  
J. McDONALD

### AUBURN

HOSZOVSKI  
LAWSON  
HUGHES  
GIBSON  
HUCKER  
LEAK  
QUESTED  
STEWART  
DELLAR  
KEITH  
PARKER

## OFFICIAL PROGRAM OF NSW FEDERATION

## THIS WEEK

### AMPOL CUP

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 25

Wests v. Pan Hellenic — Marconi Oval, 7.45 p.m.  
Marconi v. Yugal-Prague — Marconi Oval, 9.15 p.m.  
APIA v. Sutherland — Woonona Oval, 7.45 p.m.  
Safeway v. Canterbury — Woonona Oval, 9.15 p.m.

#### SUNDAY, JANUARY 27

Hakoah v. Croatia — Wentworth Park, 3 p.m.  
St. George v. Auburn — Wentworth Park, 4.30 p.m.

## NEXT WEEK

### AMPOL CUP

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1

Marconi v. Auburn — Garside Park, 7.45 p.m.  
Hakoah v. Pan Hellenic — Garside Park, 9.15 p.m.  
Croatia v. Sutherland — Woonona Oval, 7.45 p.m.  
Safeway v. St. George — Woonona Oval, 9.15 p.m.

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 3

Yugal-Prague v. Canterbury — Wentworth Park, 3 p.m.  
APIA v. Wests — Wentworth Park, 4.30 p.m.

## INTERNATIONAL SOCCER

# AUSTRALIAN XI

### V.

# FERENCVAROS

Sydney Sportsground  
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# Socceroos — but no Lions!

— By BRIAN GLANVILLE in London —

We have heard a great deal about how poor a team Australia are, how deeply unworthy of appearing in the World Cup finals.

Vital Loraux, the Belgian referee who took charge of their match against South Korea in Australia, pronounced the standard of the game deplorable, not to be compared with that of the dramatic England-Poland game which he had so recently refereed at Wembley.

The Australians might be forgiven were they to feel embittered by such criticism.

What, they might properly demand of their detractors, do you want of us?

In 1966, we were knocked out by the North Koreans, 6-1 and 3-1, in the only match of the Afro-Asian group, and you said we were a push-over.

North Korea came to England, beat Italy 1-0, and frightened the life out of the Portuguese, in the quarterfinals.

Well, we have beaten Iran, who beat North Korea, and we have beaten South Korea, who beat Israel. Kindly remember that in the 1970 World Cup, Israel stood up sturdily to such "great" powers as Italy, the eventual finalists, Uruguay and Sweden.

We make no great claims, have no great pretensions, but we humbly submit that we have as much right to be in the finals as North Korea and Israel, who were not disgraced.

## NOT OUR FAULT

That England, Portugal, Hungary and Russia will not be among those present in West Germany is not our fault.

Indeed it is not. It is the fault of a ridiculous qualifying competition which should have been de-zoned years ago.

When I spoke recently to the President of FIFA, Sir Stanley Rous, I was much encouraged to find him in total agreement with me.

What he would like to see, though unfortunately he has not been able to persuade the World Cup committee to agree with him (so much for all those wild stories of his being a dictator) is to follow the present eliminating tournament with a further qualifying stage.

This would comprise 24 or 32 teams, which would produce either eight or sixteen finalists.

He is aware, as I am, of the counter argument which has so often been advanced: "They say if this is a World Cup and you want to develop football, make football more attractive, inspire people to play it all over the world, you shouldn't close any doors."

"I see that, but until there's a levelling up, it's

necessary to get the strongest teams in the finals.

I think that's very necessary from an economic point of view, too."

This seemed to me especially significant, given that Sir Stanley has always been a great supporter and pioneer of football in the Third World, particularly in Africa.

The Afro-Asians, alas, tend to behave with all the thin-skinned petulance of countries recently emerged from colonialism.

It will be recalled that the reason North Korea played off with Australia for the 1966 tournament was because all the other Afro-Asian countries walked out in a huff, insisting that they be given two qualifiers rather than one.

In 1970 they got them, which was fatuous. The invention of the jet plane has shrunk the world, and with it the World Cup.

The argument in favor of developing football in the underdeveloped footballing countries has validity; up to a point.

It is, as Rous suggests, a question of your priorities, whether you want to run the World Cup as a genuine international competition, or as a kind of propaganda exercise.

I would question whether there is really a choice to be made between the two, since the best propaganda, surely, is finally the presentation of the best teams playing the best football feasible.

## THE EXCEPTION?

Australia, however, may well prove the exception to the rule, so far as participation in the World Cup encouraging the native sport is concerned.

It seems to have done nothing for North Korea, whose football has gone back rather than forward since 1966, little for football in Israel and Morocco, and not much for Mexico, forever slipping into World Cups by the back door of a feeble group.

There really does seem to be a great surge in Australian football, partly brought about, unquestionably by the high level of immigration since the last war.

What one hears about the enthusiasm shown for the successful World Cup team, the record audience for the television of the cliff hanging play-off, lead one to believe that soccer Down Under is at long last coming into its own.

I don't think the Australians have any right to be in West Germany, but I congratulate them and I hope they do well. Their achievement in getting there at all is already considerable.



Some of the scenes of jubilation in Hong Kong on November 13, 1973, after Australia had qualified for the World Cup finals by beating Sth. Korea 1-0.

# Cruyff is Europe's Player of the Year

Johan Cruyff, of Barcelona and Holland, is Europe's 1973 Player of the Year.

The Dutch virtuoso becomes only the second player to win Europe's most coveted award for a second time.

Cruyff, who was also chosen as Europe's best in 1971, equals the record of the great Alfredo Di Stefano, of Real Madrid fame, who won the distinction in 1957 and 1959.

Cruyff won easily, obtaining twice as many votes in the European-wide poll as runner-up Dino Zoff, the Juventus and Italy goalkeeper.



JOHAN CRUYFF

His triumph comes as no surprise. Cruyff played the major role in Ajax's 1972/73 European Cup victory and in Holland's qualification for the World Cup finals. Since joining Barcelona, he has even played better, taking his club from the bottom of the ladder to a clear-cut championship lead.

Fifteen of the 25 leading soccer writers consulted in the poll, which has been conducted by the mass-circulation, influential "France Football" since 1956, gave Cruyff as their first choice.

Only two, the Englishman and the Bulgarian, did not rate him in their first five selections.

Dino Zoff, the goalkeeper who hasn't conceded a goal in 917 minutes for Italy, is the first goalkeeper to rate so highly since Yashin was European Player of the Year in 1963. (Gordon Banks, at his peak, never came higher than fourth in the European poll.)

Gerd Müller, the 1970

winner, is a bit of a surprise in third place as 1973 was not one of his best years, though he came second on the European goalscoring list and again topped the West German chart.

His Bayern München team-mate Franz Beckenbauer is also perhaps a trifle lucky to be in fourth place in a year when West Germany did not fare too impressively.

Billy Bremner, of Leeds and Scotland, deserved better than his fifth place. At club and national team levels he displayed enough brilliance to clinch third place at least in the 1973 player rankings.

The sixth place of Polish playmaker Kazimierz Deyna is a fitting tribute to a fine player — and to Polish soccer, making its first appearance in the World Cup finals since 1938 after eliminating England.

The full list of players who received votes reads:

| Points |                             |
|--------|-----------------------------|
| 1      | Cruyff (Barcelona) 96       |
| 2      | Zoff (Juventus) 47          |
| 3      | Müller (Bayern) 44          |
| 4      | Beckenbauer (Bayern) 30     |
| 5      | Bremner (Leeds) 22          |
| 6      | Deyna (Legia Warsaw) 16     |
| 7      | Eusebio (Benfica) 14        |
| 8      | Rivera (Milan AC) 12        |
| 9      | Edstroem (PSV) 11           |
| 10     | Netzer (Real Madrid) 10     |
| 11     | Hoeness (Bayern) 9          |
| 12     | Facchetti (Inter) 8         |
| 13     | Bonev (Plovdiv) 7           |
| 14     | Mazzola (Inter) 6           |
| 15     | Tomaszewski (Lodz) 5        |
| 16     | Asensi (Barcelona) 5        |
| 17     | Lubanski (Gornik) 4         |
| 18     | Overath (FC Köln) 3         |
| 19     | Sandberg (Kaiserslautern) 2 |
| 20     | Kreische (Rostok) 2         |
| 21     | Moore (West Ham) 2          |
| 22     | Hulshoff (Ajax) 2           |
| 23     | Jennings (Tottenham) 1      |
| 24     | Law (Manchester City) 1     |
| 25     | Viktor (Dukla Prague) 1     |

Djadic (Red Star Belgrade) 1  
Bogicevic (Red Star Belgrade) 1  
Previous European Player of the Year award winners: 1956 Stanley Matthews, 1957 Di Stefano, 1958 Kopa, 1959 D. Stefan, 1960 Suarez, 1961 Sivori, 1962 Masopust, 1963 Yashin, 1964 Denis Law, 1965 Eusebio, 1966 Bobby Charlton, 1967 Albert,

## A tale of two coaches

# RASIC AND RAMSEY

— By DAVID BATESON (Member of the Australian Society of Authors) —

Like his European and South American peers, Sir Alf Ramsey had centralised talent, fanatical support, easy communications.

Mr. Rasic had to overcome difficulty of communications, indifference and a small range of talent.

Ramsey did not cash in on his advantages. Rasic overcame!

The England team could not beat Wales in London despite having:  
(1) Ground advantage at Wembley, with 100,000 partisan home supporters;  
(2) Welsh opposition from a tiny country which is mainly interested in Rugby Union and only treats soccer as a minor sport;

(3) The choice of the largest number of professional players of any country in the world — in the 92 clubs of the Football League there are about 2,000 full-time professionals.

England has the best and largest collection of soccer players in the world, but one of the weakest managers!

Australia has only a small number of talented and experienced players, but has one of the best managers!

If the England players had drawn twice away from home and won twice in London, that would have been enough to take them to the World Cup finals; all they could achieve was one pathetic away win (against little Wales) in four matches!

Two of the four were lost.

Australia played ELEVEN World Cup matches in 1973, and lost only one of them!

To qualify for Germany the Australian players had to overcome the various strengths of Iraq, Indonesia, New Zealand, Iran and South Korea.

The English morale under Ramsey was so low that it seems highly unlikely that their players could have come through the ordeals that Australian players did — in front of hostile crowds after long journeys to Iran and South Korea.

The English players have considerable skill, guts and stamina.

The Australian players have moderate skill, guts and stamina, but they also have Rasic.

On the soccer conversion scale, ONE RASIC equals 11 SIR ALF RAMSEYS!

The Australian players at the outset of the World Cup preliminaries had little hope of glory or big financial benefits.

Anything they have already acquired, or will acquire, is the result of dedication and 100 per cent effort.

It doesn't matter in the slightest whether the players were born here or whether they adopted the place.

Australia is their country. The Socceroo conception was an Australian thing.

The achievement in attaining a position in the World Cup finals is an Australian adventure.

## GERMAN SQUAD

Bayern München have seven players in the West German squad: Mates, Schwarzenbeck, Beckenbauer, Kapellmann, Breitner, Hoeness and Muller.

Borussia Mönchengladbach's contribution is six: Kleff, Vogts, Danner, Bonhof, Wimmer and Hoenes, while FC Köln's quota is four: Callmann, Weber, Orenish and Flohe.

Grubowski (Frankfurt), Hooten (Bremen), Karmers (Schalke) and Geyer (Düsseldorf) are the others in the squad.

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Chile's World Cup players — Olivares, Machuca, Quintano, Figueroa, Farias, Baez, Rodriguez, Valdez, Ahumada, Caszely and Veliz — acknowledge the cheers of the Uruguayan crowd after their 2-0 win against Peru in the play-off in Montevideo last year.

## Three-month lead-up for our Chilean opponents

— By CARLOS MENDOZA in Santiago —

Chile's league championship will end in March and after that the national team will play a series of lead-up matches.

In early April they plan to tour Peru, Ecuador, Haiti and the USA and after that hope to play in Europe, arriving at Berlin on June 1.

The chances are that Chile will send a team based on veterans to the World Cup.

Their manager, Luis Alamos, currently technical director with the Santiago club Colo Colo, will rely on battle-tested internationals in Germany.

Fullback Elias Figueroa (29), midfielder Carlos Reinoso (30) and striker Francisco Valdez (30) are likely

to be the pivotal points. Figueroa now plays with Internacional in Porto Alegre and was recently named as "defender of the year" in Brazil.

Reinoso is with the "America" club in Mexico; he scored the winner against Peru in the play-off.

The most dangerous striker of the team could be Carlos Caszely, 23, a

bustling, tough goal-getter now playing with the Spanish Second Division club Levante.

All "expatriates" will be at the disposal of Alamos after March.

Chile being a relatively poor country, the players' earnings are moderate.

For qualifying for the finals, each player received about \$700.

## '74 WORLD CUP DIGEST

● Brilliant goalkeeper Jan Tomaszewski, the hero of Poland's 1-1 draw with England at Wembley, is out of action until the end of the Polish club season. He is not even sure to be fit in time for Poland's appearance in the World Cup finals — their first since 1938. His absence could be a fatal blow to the Olympic champions' chances of playing an interesting role in West Germany.

● Vladislav Cap, a former international has replaced Omar Sivori, as Argentina's national team coach. He will be assisted by Osvaldo Zubizarreta, the coach of Estudiantes, and by Jorge Kistenmacher. The Argentinians are confident they will do well in the finals. "We can beat both Italy and Poland," claims Cap.

● "Cruyff will be the star of the World Cup," said his former coach Stefan Kovacs. "Cruyff was half of Ajax and is now the man behind Barcelona's great revival. He can lead Holland to great heights in the World Cup."

● It cost the Argentine FA \$50,000 to reach the 1974 World Cup finals. That's the loss their qualifying campaign incurred.

● It seems almost certain that after the World Cup finals Brazil will lose star fullback Marco Antonio to Barcelona. The Cruyff-team has already taken an option on his transfer from Fluminense, with whom his contract expires in May.

● The manager-coach of the Polish national team, Casimir Gorski, has relinquished his duties as coach of LKS Lodz to concentrate on the World Cup squad until the finals.

Poland's 1974 preparation will start next month with practice matches in Yugoslavia and Spain.

● Blagoiev Vidinic, coach of Zaire, is confident of his team putting on a good show in the World Cup. "I have three outstanding players in striker Kembo, midfielder Kidumo and goalie Kazadi. All my players have a tremendous will to win and most of them are extremely skilled. Zaire is capable of causing a few upsets," added the former Yugoslav international goalie.

● Wim Van Hanegem and Rudi Krol, who played in all of Holland's qualifying World Cup matches, got a bigger slice of the bonus than their teammates. They received \$13,000 each. Cruyff, who played one match less, was paid \$11,500. A consortium of 37 companies provided the World Cup bonuses which totalled about \$180,000.

● With Scotland now planning for the World Cup, one player determined to show Scottish team boss Willie Ormond that he is a candidate for a place in the squad for Germany is Sheffield United striker Jim Bone. Part of the swap deal that took Trevor Hockey to Norwich last spring, Bone has made two previous appearances for Scotland, as substitute against Yugoslavia in 1972 and against Denmark earlier last year. He has not yet figured in Ormond's plans, but a good season with United must surely put his name firmly back into Ormond's mind.

## Memo to Muller: remember Pele

Gerd Muller will be the most marked man in the World Cup.

Muller, surely the most lethal and feared striker in the world, lives in fear of being kicked out of the World Cup.

Orders will certainly go out: Stop Muller, and you stop Germany.

Remember Pele during the 1966 World Cup in England.

Pele was hacked to pieces, and it was "goodbye Brazil."

That same gruesome tale could be unfolded in West Germany next year — though not by Australia, when they play the World Cup favorites in Hamburg on June 18, we hope.

For the plain fact remains that West Germany without Muller are like a Cheifian tank without ammunition.

Muller has played 50 full internationals and scored 62 goals for his country.

He has notched four international hat-tricks and in four games he also scored four goals (against Albania in 1967, Cyprus in 1969, Russia in 1972 and Switzerland, also in 1972).

Top scorer of the 1970 World Cup, with 10 goals, Gerd Muller topped the German Bundesliga scoring list in 1967, 1969, 1970, 1972 and 1973.

West Germany are tipped to win the trophy.

But they seem in need of major surgery.

Many of the parts just didn't seem to function properly in 1973.



Gerd Muller posing with the ten soccer balls symbolising the goals he scored in the 1970 World Cup finals.

They should have no trouble in reaching the second round.

But from then on it could be a struggle. Manager Helmut Schoen knows the task in front of him.

It is the same as Sir Alf Ramsey faced in 1966.

But this time West Germany could come unstuck — especially if somebody nobbles "Goal machine" Muller.

(with help from GOAL Magazine, London)

## World champions sour

# Brazilians not too optimistic

One of the first British reactions to the World Cup draw came from Celtic's manager Jock Stein who, like other experts, said the final stages of the competition would be easy for no one, but added that he felt the South American influence would be negligible.

This will be Europe's World Cup," he said.

And from Rio de Janeiro comes confirmation that "not many people are prepared to put money on Brazil to win the World Cup for the fourth time."

As Brazilian soccer has been set up as the most attractive ever devised — the complete contrast to the system that won the trophy for England in 1966 — it carries a banner.

But it seems that in South America, the Brazilians are doubtful that the pennant will fly for long in West Germany.

If Scotland are apprehensive at being drawn in the same group as Brazil and Yugoslavia/Spain (depending on the result of a play-off), certainly Brazil are fearful now that they have lost three of their great players: Pele, who will not be persuaded to come out of international retirement, Tostao, who has a serious eye injury, and Gerson, the captain in 1972, but now aging and injury prone.

### "Blessed triangle"

To understand the importance of football to the Brazilians, and especially the value of these three, it is only necessary to say that Pele, Tostao and Gerson were described as "the blessed triangle."

Mario Zagalo, the Brazilian national team coach, does not dismiss the criticism being made by the Press who claim Brazil have "lost their rhythm," but says: "They not only expect us to win all the time, but to win brilliantly."

He probably remembers that four years ago the Press gave him verbal punishment until the moment the team won the Cup.

Even so he says: "This time it won't be easy for us. We will be playing against well-established teams while our selection still lacks team spirit."

### "Difficult"

Zagalo has no doubt "this will be the most difficult World Cup Brazil will have disputed to date, and to make matters worse, we will not have the same superb team we had in Mexico four years ago."

At least Brazil have not been drawn in the same group as the three countries they least wanted to meet: West Germany, Poland and Italy.

He said: "West Germany will be playing in its own backyard, which is always an advantage."

"Poland will be playing the same brilliant team that won the 1972 Olympics, and Italy always has excellent players."

His reference to Italy could equally apply to Brazil, who have the resources to rebuild and even replace the "blessed triangle."

### Group training

Three of the 1970 team, Rivelino, Paulo Cesar and Jairzinho are in the party who will begin group training in the first week of March before having a series of matches against foreign opponents.

After about nine matches the group will be reduced from 30 to 22.

The majority of those in the final selection will probably come from the party who toured North Africa and Europe last year.

This may not please the local Press who claimed that the tour matches produced "dull football," but the record since 1970 reads: P26, W15, D9, L2.

The European tour produced several promising newcomers and established others, although not convincingly developing that flowing football that was the basis of previous Brazilian play.

### Likely squad

The basis of the party will probably be founded on: Felix (goalkeeper), who played in Mexico; Ze Maria, a good, young defender who won a regular place on the tour; Eurico, reserve in 1970; Brito, now 32, but thought to be better than ever; Pereira, the best orthodox winger in Brazil; Marco Antonio, a 17-year-old member of the 1970 team, now 21 and the best left-side defender in the country; Rivelino, a veteran at 26 and the most versatile member of the party, being able to play in midfield or as a winger and goalscorer; Clodoaldo, midfield member of the Mexico team; Jairzinho, top scorer for Brazil in 1970 and probably the best freekick exponent in the world; Valdimiro, a new forward who played well on tour (aged 21); Leivinha, now a regular member of the national team and top goalscorer for his club; Palhinha, another good newcomer since 1970; Dicu, aged 21, yet another winger with a habit of scoring breakaway goals; Paulo Cesar, only a reserve in 1970, but now considered one of the best forwards in South America.

— By Norman Fox in the "TIMES" of London.

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## How others see us

By drawing the same World Cup group as the two Germanies, Australian soccer is getting lots of world-wide coverage.

Australia is getting plenty of space in newspapers everywhere the draw is commented.

After giving an outline of Chile and East and West Germany, this is what L'EQUIPE's Jean-Philippe Rethacker has to say about Australia in his comments on Group 1:

"Australia is the surprise guest of this World Cup, where their much-travelled team will be watched with great interest.

"The Australian side will be something of an oddity, a mixed bag indeed, as it includes players of Australian, English, Scottish, German, Yugoslav and Hungarian origin. The lot coached by a Yugoslav, Zvonimir Rasic.

"Their team, from all reports, seems to be pretty solid, favoring a European style, with the emphasis on physical strength, vigor and hard shooting.

"Logically, one must assume that the average skills of players with such different racial and temperamental backgrounds cannot resist the onslaught from the two German giants. But can one ever tell?

"It's with a similar line-up that the USA beat England in the 1950 World Cup."

Quote from Bill Shankly, the Liverpool manager: "Some people think football is a matter of life and death. I can assure them it's much more serious than that."

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The 1974 European Champions' Cup final will be staged at Brussels' Heysel Stadium on May 15. Rotterdam's Feyenoord Stadium will stage the Cup-Winners' Cup final on May 8. The home-and-away UEFA Cup final will be played on May 22 and 29.

• Scotland's World Cup players will only have a five-day holiday after the British Championship in May. "They'll be playing non-stop until July," vows manager Billy Ordmond.

• Johan Cruyff has also been voted Europe's best 1973 player by the Soviet Press, whose ratings are: 1 Cruyff (Holland), 2 Beckenbauer (West Germany), 3 Blokhin (USSR), 4 Edstrom (Sweden), 5 Facchetti (Italy).

• According to well-informed sources, members of the Greek national team had been promised \$4,000 each if they had succeeded in eliminating Yugoslavia from the World Cup finals. Despite the mammoth inducement the Greeks lost 2-4, so Spain and Yugoslavia will play-off next month in Frankfurt. If Spain qualifies for the finals, their players can expect a bonus of \$12,000.

• The Italians are unhappy. They have only been allocated 4,000 tickets for their team's first round World Cup games in Stuttgart and Munich. They claim they could have sold at least 25,000.

• Eight members of the touring Argentinian club Gimnasia Esgrima were arrested at Lima Airport. Peruvian police have charged them with paying for duty-free goods with forged currency.

• Milan AC will appoint Varese's sporting director, Sandro Vitale, as their general-manager this month.

• Iain Philip, the 22-year-old Dundee centre-half who was transferred to Crystal Palace for \$200,000 soon after the Scottish club returned from their Australian tour, is back with Dundee who only stumped up only just less than half that amount to buy him back.

• Borussia Moenchengladbach, unofficially acclaimed as the leaders of youth policies in European soccer, sport 12 sides from nine-year-olds upwards and annually spend a small fortune on their youngsters. The past year they earmarked a considerable part of the \$600,000 they got from Real Madrid for Gunter Netzer on their juniors and all their current first team players, except Jansen, the Dane, are local products.

• Ajax annihilated Milan AC 6-0 in Amsterdam to win the European Super-Cup on a 6-1 aggregate.

• Leeds United have created an all-time record in English League soccer with their unbeaten run and Billy Bremner, their club and also Scottish team captain, has now played over 500 first team league matches with another 100 cup-ties thrown in for the Yorkshire side.

• Nicole Priveteanu, a 35-year-old housewife, has been refereeing top grade amateur games in France for six years. The whistling business runs in her family for her husband is also a referee and their three sons are all likely to take up the man-in-the-middle position.

• Ferenc Puskas is now a grandfather. His daughter, Anika, married to Spaniard Jesus Maria Damborenea, has given birth to a daughter, Elizabeth, in Bilbao.

• Paraguay's First Division champions Cerro Porteno have withdrawn from the championship because of their dissatisfaction with local referees who, they claim, are against the club. Porteno has been pressing the Paraguayan FA to engage foreign referees for some time.

• The unknown Italian coach, Ettore Trevisan, who took Haiti into the World Cup finals for the first time won't be accompanying the team to Germany. The Haitian Government has decreed that national prestige demands that a local coach be appointed for the finals. The position will be filled by technical adviser, Antoine Tassy.

• The Press have been forbidden to enter Real Madrid's dressing rooms and from publishing interviews with players. This follows a number of sensational interviews with leading players which have upset the club management.

• Ararat Yerevan, the club from the capital of Armenia, took out the "double" in the Soviet Union by winning both the championship and the cup. Ararat's average home crowd of 57,000 spectators last season was one of the highest in the world.

• Brazilian forward Cosme da Silva Campos, 20, has been suspended for 60 days after a urine test indicated he was doped during a First Division match. Campos is one of Brazil's most promising players. He plays for Atletico Mineiras, of Belo Horizonte.

• Two famous former greats of Uruguayan soccer have died in Montevideo. They are Alfredo Gheira, 80, a member of the team that won the 1924 Olympic gold medal, and Lorenzo Fernandez, 73, 1928 soccer Olympic champion and 1930 World Cup winner.

• The Swedish FA has decided to allow clubs to field two foreign players — a revolutionary move in a country whose borders have always been closed to imports.

• Sir Stanley Rous has no intention of stepping down. The FIFA president, who is 78 years old, is now hot on the election trail, fighting off the challenge of Brazil's Joao Havelange, who will stand against him for the presidency in June. Sir Stanley could be beaten as the Communist bloc appears certain to vote against him because of the Chile World Cup fiasco.

• Europe's smallest sovereign state, Vatican City, now has its own 10-club soccer league. The clubs represent various Vatican departments, such as the daily newspaper, "L'Osservatore Romano", the gardeners, the farmers, the gendarmes, the office staff in the Roman Curia, and so on. The teams have to hire fields outside the Vatican to play on, and though the clubs swear there are no priests among the players, rumors have it otherwise. Each team is allowed to have three non-Italian players, mainly Swiss guards.

• Gyula Szucs, coach of four-time-in-a-row champions Ujpest in Hungary, has resigned. As the cynics of Budapest say, "after mutual understanding" — the fullback and the striker agreed that he must go.

• Overath, the brilliant FC Koln and Germany midfielder, is injured and fears are that he might need a cartilage operation soon.

• Artemio Franchi, president of the Italian FA and of UEFA, European soccer's ruling body, has denied he was resigning from both posts. "I'll keep both positions as long as I'm voted back into office," he said.

## Italy the top European team

Australia's European World Cup opponents, East Germany and West Germany, have been listed fourth and eighth respectively in the 1973 rankings.

The rankings, published yearly by "France Football", Europe's most authoritative and influential soccer journal, are universally regarded as official in the same way that their European Player of the Year awards have achieved official status.

Italy, predictably, emerged as the Continent's top team last year. They won seven of their eight matches, against teams of the calibre of Brazil and England (twice), only drew once (0-0 with Turkey), and did not concede a goal while scoring 15.

Sweden's second place may surprise, coming after their 21st ranking in 1972, but last year the Swedes only lost once — against Italy — in 11 matches and their victims included the Brazilians, and to cap a great year they reached the finals of the World Cup.

Yugoslavia, unbeaten in 1973, was unlucky not to be ranked ahead of the Swedes. The highlight of their season was a win against West Germany in Munich.

Two neighbouring countries, with a similar style, East Germany and Poland, occupy equal fourth place.

The Germans lost twice, drew once and won 10 of their 18 internationals to continue their steady climb up the European ladder, while the Poles, despite a shock loss to the United States and to Eire, still managed to win 10 times and to draw — when it mattered most — with England at Wembley.

Though Holland eliminated Belgium from the World Cup finals, the Belgians neither lost nor conceded a goal in 1973 whereas Holland suffered one defeat (against Austria). West Germany and Eng-

land, two of the world soccer giants, slumped last year and must be content with sharing eighth place in the "France Football" rankings.

Germany lost three games at home — to Yugoslavia, Brazil and Argentina — while England's record reads: W 6 D 3 L 3.

The other European countries were pretty close to each other, as far as performances in 1973 were concerned.

Of the World Cup finalists, Bulgaria were ranked 10th and Scotland only 17th as they could just win two games out of six and were trounced 5-0 by England.

Turkey's 11th placing is their best-ever and Northern Ireland's 13th is also a good effort, but countries like France (19th), Austria (22nd) and Czechoslovakia (15th) confirmed their decline.

But what is one to think of the Soviet Union and Hungary?

Russia (17th) didn't score a goal in any of their last six internationals, which included five matches at home. As for the Hungarians (equal 22nd with Austria), for the first time in their history they went through a year without a single win.

The 1973 ratings: 1. Italy; 2. Sweden; 3. Yugoslavia; 4. East Germany; 5. Poland; 6. Belgium; 7. Holland; 8. West Germany; 9. England; 10. Bulgaria; 11. Spain; 12. Turkey; 13. Portugal; 14. Northern Ireland; 15. Romania; 16. Czechoslovakia; 17. Scotland; 18. USSR; 19. Eire; 20. France; 21. Switzerland; 22. Austria; 23. Denmark; 24. Wales; 25. Cyprus; 26. Albania; 27. Finland; 28. Norway; 29. Greece; 30. Luxembourg; 31. Malta; 32. Iceland.

• Africa, too, has its "Player of the Year." The 1973 winner is Bwanga, from Zaire, who was runner-up in the 1972 poll. Another player from Zaire is second, Kazadi. Third place went to the Ivory Coast's Pokou, with yet another Zairese, Kokoko, in fourth place, ahead of Farias, of Morocco, and Yaw Sam (Ghana).

• Brazil announces a tour of a team of veterans to the Soviet Union next year. The team is likely to include former World Cup stars Gilmar, Zito, Didi, Nilton Santos, Castilho, Zagalo and Zizinho.

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Soon it will be the SINGING SOCCEROOS. Australia's World Cup players, always great ones for a sing-song, will cut a record in the near future. Proceeds will go into the players' World Cup pool.

RAY RICHARDS, who still hadn't come to terms with Marconi as this issue went to press, has been invited to be guest of honor at a big soccer "do" in Bundaberg, North Queensland, next month.

Bobby Hogg had an operation last week to remove the pins from the leg he broke when playing for St. George against Marconi on Anzac Day last year.

Sydney stands to have the lion-hearted Persijn Jakarta captain, ISWADI, back to play for Western Suburbs during the season. Iswadi is one of Indonesia's soccer idols.

Goalie DAVE McQUIRE is missing from APIA's line-up because of a broken arm.

For JOHN ROBERTS last Sunday's appearance in goal for APIA was his first in Sydney since New Caledonia beat NSW 4-2, also at Wentworth Park, in October 1965 — on the eve of the Australian team's departure for their World Cup matches against Cambodia in which Roberts played for Australia — at the age of 19.

Soccer is back on 2GB — sponsored by Ampol and compered by Peter Hazelwood. The soccer segment can be heard Saturday at 5.45 p.m. and Sunday at 5.50 p.m.

Many Pan Hellenic supporters rate RICHARD BELL as one of the most capable defensive prospects the club has ever had. This season he will be under the eagle eye of Rale Rasic, so be sure to keep an eye on his progress.

It seems that many Asian nations are very much aware of the Australian football picture, and the all-round value in Australia and outside it of Australia reaching the final 16 for next June. The very able Indonesian president, DR. KOSASIH PURWANEGARA, who toured with the Jakarta team, commented very favorably on the upsurge in soccer interest in Australia flowing from our Cup success.

RALE RASIC hasn't had a spare moment since returning from Europe last week. Besides coaching Pan Hellenic and tending to his business commitments, the Aussie coach had a busy weekend giving interviews to several top English journalists on their way to Christchurch for the Commonwealth Games.

JIM MESTRONI has been appointed full-time secretary of Marconi-Fairfield.

Canterbury are interested in signing Northern NSW captain PETER IRVINE, who started his Australian career some years back with Corinthians in Sydney.

State president PETER McCANN also has a close family connection with the game of football. One daughter, Heather, left with the senior NSW side last Friday week for a tour of New Zealand. Heather is still a junior, and her prowess at football means that she has now visited Perth and New Zealand, with probable trips to Canberra and Melbourne in coming weeks. Mrs. Pat McCann has been a prominent official in the sport for many years.

Indonesians take their soccer seriously. Warm-up matches against Czechoslovakia's famous DUKLA PRAGUE figured in the preparations for the NSW tour. Not surprisingly the famous Dukla won both encounters (3-1 and 4-0) — but what practice for a tour of this nature!

Canterbury have signed LARRY ARMYTAGE from Hakoah for \$2,000. They also secured goalkeeper LESTER FORRESTER from the Blues. Forrester pulled a ligament at training last week, and could not play against Auburn in the Ampol Cup opener.

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CANTERBURY hope to sign a stopper from the Sunshine club in Melbourne.

With Australia's big World Cup qualifying win, the ART UNION in aid of the Royal NSW Institution for Deaf and Blind Children conducted by the NSW Soccer Beef and Burgundy Club has greater meaning. Six return flights to Germany, with accommodation and tickets to matches, head the prize list. All you would have to do is arrange your holidays accordingly! Also on the prize list valued at \$12,376 are: a P & O cruise for two to the South Seas, a Honda motor cycle, Kelvinator fridge-freezer, Metters cooker, Rodny fur stole, Singer sewing machine, National and Aico cassette recorders. Tickets are on sale at \$1 each.

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JIM MARCHANT, manager of the Wentworth Park Trust, made a fine gesture towards the Indonesians — and soccer in general — by opening the ground to enable them to train there. Thanks, Jim.

Prominent soccer officials are tipping that very early moves indicate that it should not be long before an Australian team goes on its first SOUTH AMERICAN TOUR. There are interests on both sides of the Pacific who are keen to see the tour eventuate.

DR. GORDON WATERLOW has been appointed Coaching Director for all Inter-District and representative teams in the Granville District Association. Dr. Waterlow has mapped out an outstanding 1974 program for the youngsters of the area, which embraces a dozen big centres from Lidcombe through to Seven Hills. Activities cover the entire year, with the exception of planned breaks, including a four-week lay-off immediately after the season proper. A common approach to coaching will be covered, and the objective is to first produce footballers, and if competition wins come along the route they will be regarded purely as an added bonus. Skills tests will be undertaken, and an award given — along the lines of the tests advocated in the English publication "Football Academy". Anyone interested is welcome at the coaching sessions, which are already under way at Doyle Park, just off Victoria Road, Parramatta, on Tuesday and Thursdays from 5 p.m.

Polonia Adelaide's former Australian international goalkeeper, ROGER ROMANOWICZ, seems certain to join

Pan Hellenic, perhaps only in a matter of days.

Two Newcastle players are likely to be playing in Tasmania shortly. Left wing striker KEN WORDEN is likely to be joined by Cessnock's MIKE SOUTHWORTH. 21-year-old Southworth is one of the North's bright prospects. He came to Australia from Lancashire club Clitheroe.

NEWCASTLE AUSTRAL CLUB, in the Newcastle First Division, is hoping to obtain their licence in the not far distant future. The club owns its own ground close to Lambton and Wallend. Tiered seating has been completed, and a full training pitch adjoins the main ground.

ROKKO ILE has been transferred from Yugal-Prague to Pan Hellenic for a bargain \$500. He made his debut in the second half against Sutherland last week and scored a great goal which made him an instant Greek hero.

## EUROPEAN CUP DRAW

This is the quarter-final draw in the three major European competitions:

Champions' Cup: FC Basel v. Celtic; Red Star Belgrade v. Atletico Madrid; Spartak Trnava v. Ujpest; Bayern Munich v. CSKA Sofia.

Cup-Winners' Cup: Milan AC v. PAOK Salonika; Magdeburg v. Borussia Mönchengladbach; FC Zurich v. FC Basel.

UEFA Cup: Stuttgart v. Victoria Setubal; Ipswich v. Lokomotive Leipzig; FC Köln v. Tottenham; Ruch Chorzow v. Feyenoord.

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# ENGLISH SCHOOLBOYS WILL TOUR

Australian schoolboy football is poised ready to receive a great boost following completion of negotiations with the English Schools Football Association by John Churchill.

Mr. Churchill, a director of Western Suburbs Soccer Club and a former schoolmaster, returned to Sydney last Thursday after five weeks in England.

He issued an invitation to the English Association to tour here in July, and a favorable recommendation goes to their Council from the Executive on January 29.

"I am 99.5% certain that England will accept the tour," Churchill said.

"Every aspect was thrashed out in our meetings and there is complete agreement at executive level."

## BREAKTHROUGH

The breakthrough will have a remarkable effect on schools football if, as expected, it comes to pass.

The English Schools FA can call on 15,000 schools for their representative team, which is in demand

from many parts of the world.

West's willingness to pay the fares, which would later be recouped from gate receipts, took the ifs and buts out of the negotiations.

Profits would be used in expansion of the schoolboy game.

The England schools team will be under-15 on January 1, 1974.

As they work to age groups at August 31 it speaks volumes for the co-

operation received that far better known and infinitely bigger organisation was prepared to change its normal routine to accommodate us.

The English schools team's last match before the Australian tour will be against the West Germans at Wembley on June 1, and a crowd of over 70,000 is expected.

The English team is close to being chosen.

John Churchill witnessed one of the final trials at Reading between South East and South West on January 12.

North East and North West play on January 29, leaving only North to play South before the side will be finalised.

Glyn Evans, the ESEA secretary, said that selections will be made with an eye to those players whose age fits them for the Australian tour.

John Churchill classed the English players as young amateurs who have all the qualities of top professionals, and they read the game beautifully.

In that sense he considers their players are 12 months ahead of our boys.

However, they lose a little by failing to shoot until everything is organised and completely tidy.

## ROBUST

Mr. Churchill believes that our boys could bridge the gap by being faster and more robust, and through their willingness to let fly with a scorcher whether within range or outside it.

One stipulation made by him was that the top echelon of the English schools executive accompany the team, together with their leading coach.

In this way contact will be established at the right level, Australian conditions will be known and the foundation laid for a regular exchange of visits.

The matches are subject to finalisation, but fixtures against NSW (Sydney), Northern NSW (Newcastle), Southern NSW (Wollongong) and Western NSW at Orange or Bathurst are likely to be played.

It will be up to the schools authorities to arrange for a full international if they wish to.

## OPEN ARMS

Whilst existing interstate competition is mainly at open grade level, Victoria, in particular, has all its best young players available to under-15, and they should welcome the opportunity to participate with open arms.

Apart from the inevitable sorting out of details, support from schools, juniors and amateurs can be expected to the fullest.

NSW president Peter McCann and ASFF treasurer Tom Grimsen were delighted when informed of the apparent success of the mission.

It is noteworthy that progress made has been at the English Schools and not the English Football Association level.

On the basis of top promotion, the writer firmly believes that a Saturday Sydney Cricket Ground Australia-England schoolboy international should and could draw 40,000-50,000 people.

Let's hope that everything comes off as per the Churchillian master plan. A little time will tell.

— By KEITH GILMOUR —

# COOK'S TOUR OF MELBOURNE

Second round Ampol Cup fixtures for this Saturday night at Olympic Park are:

- Wihelmina v. Slavia
- Alexander v. George Cross

Wihelmina, despite their good rating and potential, flattered to deceive in 1973, but they are a side with dedication and will-to-win which is half the battle in the scramble for success of any side.

Dutchman Leo Van Tol if he lives up to his reputation, could be the answer to Wihelmina's prayer as they have lacked a good class midfielder man for years.

Slavia, great cup fighters in their long and earlier stint in the State League, came back into top company last season after a year in the minor ranks and looked for the first few weeks when they topped the league as if they were to be a force to be reckoned with.

In both defence and attack, however, they need an infusion of new blood.

A team of triers, with long-serving Swedish defender Alan Sjo and striker Eddie Boyd the pick, this attribute is not enough to guarantee this season will be as good as last without new signings.

## "INTOXICATED"

Alexander, somewhat "intoxicated" by their many fine wins and big improvement in 1973, are one of the few sides who have already strengthened their first team pool.

Ronnie Brown, a scoring winger who gave them several years' service before returning to Scotland two years ago after a bad leg injury, is back in their ranks fighting fit and makes that formidable "all tarts" quintet of John Kennedy, Vince Bannan (Rohman's Medal winner in 1973), Pat Bannan, George Gillan and Ian Gibson into an even better sextet.

With Joe Wilson, the former Wolves and Worthington fullback installed as player-coach, reports from the George Cross camp are the players are responding well and keen to start off the season on a bright note.

The Cross, with the biggest contingent of Irishmen among the top clubs in Australia with Norman Maitland, Paul Murphy, Kevin Kelly and Frank McArde, will lean heavily on this Emerald Isle quartet although the return of the brilliant John Gardiner will be anxiously awaited.

In last Saturday's opening round of the Ampol Cup Melbourne beat South Melbourne-Hellas 1-0 and Juventus defeated Polonia 3-1.

Scorer for Melbourne, from a penalty, was Steve Bleskany.

C. Lucchesi (2) and De Marchi netted for Juventus and Witra scored for Polonia.

## TOP RECRUITS

Metropolitan League side Richmond, once a State League team, have signed two highly-rated recruits in Chino Solaiman, from Malaysia, and John Judge, from England.

Tony Boggi, who recently resigned as coach of Juventus, will be the State team boss for the match against Ferencvaros, which will be played at Olympic Park on Saturday, February 2.

Manny Poulakakis, 50, who came to Australia in 1961, is back in soccer again after his dismissal from South Melbourne-Hellas last year, Manny has taken over Juventus.

Sam Meyer, the Hakoah coach, recently returned from an extended trip to Europe where he linked up with several clubs in France, Holland and Germany to learn the latest techniques of coaching.

## DE BRUYCKERE AVAILABLE

Mike De Bruyckere, the former Dutch and Australian international who has coached many clubs in Victoria, has parted company with Ringwood United and is looking for a new club. A jingle to 729-4195 will get any side interested in touch with Mike.

Melbourne have signed two new players, both Yugoslavs. They are brothers and defenders Rudi and Roman Petelin. Roman has been playing in Shepparton while Rudi is reported to have played in Yugoslav Second Division.

Austria are keen to sign George Maikoussis, the Western Suburbs (Victoria) striker who helped himself to a hat-trick in Austria's recent 4-1 win over German touring side Gruenweiss Paderborn in which Billy Vojtek of Croatia (Sydney) also guested for the State League side.

With the long-lost Ronnie Brown back in their ranks, Alexander had hoped to bring back another player of his era — defender Peter Selfe — who joined the Victorian Police Force several years ago when he was on the verge of challenging for a place in the State side. But latest indications are that Selfe will not reappear for Alexander — at least not this year.

Marjan Lopatic, the JUST and State defender who returned to Yugoslavia at the end of last season, is expected back shortly and could be in the Footscray side's line-up for their Ampol Cup game against Melbourne.

Soccer could use the Melbourne Cricket Ground soon. VSF officials are keen to stage some internationals there now that the Aussie Rules people intend to play more often at their own VFL Park headquarters. For starters, the MCG may be used as a training venue for Victorian State teams while awaiting permission to stage a couple of big games on the famous ground.

— JIM COOK

# AUBURN STILL LOOKING FOR TOP MIDFIELDER

Despite their 2-1 victory over Canterbury in the first Ampol Cup match last week, Auburn are still in search of a midfielder to strengthen the team for the 1974 season.

Coach Joe Marston tried stopper Jim Stewart in that role last Friday with some success, but the opposition perhaps was not an ideal guide.

Auburn had their hopes pinned on signing Sawfay's Gerry Walker, but on his return from Hong Kong, Walker went straight to his old club despite an understanding that he would talk to Auburn.



GARY QUESTED

Marston said this week: "Walker would have been the ideal man for us as he favors the style of football we play."

During the off-season Auburn sold John McDonald to St. George, Billy Rogers to APIA and Andy Tracey to Hakoah, which has left them in the lurch.

However, they acquired dashing centre-forward Pat Dellar in the swap with APIA and bought talented goalkeeper Steve Hoszowski

from Melita Eagles for \$3,000.

Dellar, a natural goal-grabber, made several appearances for APIA in his initial season in First Division with fair performances and he should benefit from his move to Auburn.

## Talented goalie

Steve Hoszowski, 23, is one of the most talented goalkeepers in the business and his move to a First Division club was a wise one if he is to further his career.

His consistent displays over the last two years have established him as the leading goalkeeper in Second Division and once he settles down in his new surroundings will make his presence felt in First Division, too.

Yet, Auburn's biggest gain is the return to the fold of young winger Gary Quested, who at the peak of his career, went out with an injury three years ago and completely lost interest in the game.

Although lacking in condition, his performance last Friday night showed that Gary lost none of his agility, and his speed combined with superb ball control in his runs on the wing would be once again a great asset for Auburn.

Dave Keddie, just back from his honeymoon, has been training harder this year and Auburn expect many goals from him.

— CHARLES SPITERI

# HOCKEY — AJAX STYLE

With no soccer scheduled for next Monday — Australia Day — soccer fans have an opportunity to watch some top hockey at Sydney Sportsground.

Monday is a great day for hockey — soccer's cousin — in Sydney. In addition to the test between the Netherlands and Australia (at 4.30 p.m.) fans will be treated to an early match (3 p.m.) between Pakistan and NSW.

The Netherlands and also West Germany were the first sides to introduce modern soccer formations to hockey in the early sixties. With the three-man off-side rule the European teams tended to field a formation of one sweeper, three full-backs, two midfielders and four forwards.

The change to two-man off-side proved this system ineffective, so Holland adopted the formation used by the famous Ajax soccer team of four forwards, three midfielders and three full-backs.

So successful has this been for the Netherlands that they were the shock winners of the 1973 World Cup held in Amsterdam.

The Pakistanis, who also play four tests against Australia on this dual international tour, by contrast, have continued to use the traditional five forwards, three halves and two full-backs pattern, which went out of fashion in soccer in the mid-1950's.

# Ferencvaros reception

St. George-Budapest will entertain the touring Ferencvaros party at Soccer House at 7 p.m. on Sunday, February 10.

Members are invited to attend, but are restricted to taking only one friend along as admittance to the function will be limited to 400 people.

There is no charge, but it will be a case of first come, first served, so members are advised to leave their name at the club or phone the reception desk immediately to avoid disappointment.

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